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Graphene Plasmonics

F. Javier García de Abajo,^{1,2} Frank H. L. Koppens,³ Darrick E. Chang,⁴ and Sukosin Thongrattanasiri¹

¹*Instituto de Óptica – CSIC, Serrano 121, 28006 Madrid, Spain*

³*ORC, University of Southampton, Southampton SO17 1BJ, UK*

³*ICFO, 08860 Castelldefels (Barcelona), Spain*

⁴*Caltech, Pasadena, California 9112*

J.G.deAbajo@csic.es

Abstract. Plasmons in doped graphene provide an ideal platform for strong light-matter interaction, perfect light absorption in an atomically thin layer, and ultra-large field enhancement, well beyond conventional plasmonics, and tunable through electrostatic doping.

Keywords: Plasmon, graphene, metamaterials, quantum optics.

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Graphene plasmons provide a suitable alternative to noble-metal plasmons because they exhibit much larger confinement and relatively long propagation distances, with the advantage of being highly tunable via electrostatic gating [1]. We will discuss how these properties translate into appealing optical behavior of this atomically thin material, with potential applications to infrared detection, single-photon

quantum devices, and ultrasensitive detectors. In particular, we will show that graphene layers produce extraordinarily large Purcell factors and light scattering (see Fig. 1), strong light-matter interaction, and total light absorption. These results provide the basis for the emerging and potentially far-reaching field of graphene plasmonics.

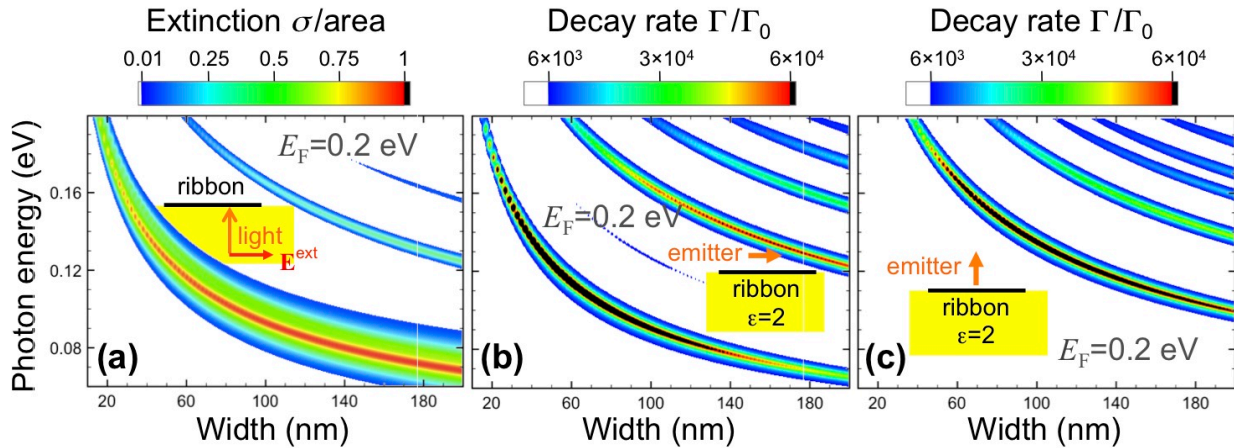


FIGURE 1. (a) Extinction cross section of doped graphene ribbons deposited on an $\epsilon = 2$ material as a function of ribbon width and photon energy for a Fermi energy $E_F = 0.2$ eV. The light is incident as shown in the inset. The cross section is normalized to the carbon sheet area. (b,c) Decay rate normalized to free space under the same conditions as in (a) for a line emitter situated 10 nm above the center of the ribbon and polarized either parallel (b) or perpendicular (c) to it.

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